

## Legislative Accomplishments

U.S. REP. GUS M. BILIRAKIS, FL-09  
ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE 110TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

### COMMITTEE & SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

- House  
Committee on Foreign Affairs; Subcommittees: Middle East and South Asia; Europe.
- House  
Committee on Homeland Security; Subcommittees: Border, Maritime, &  
Global Counterterrorism; Transportation Security & Infrastructure  
Protection.
- House  
Committee on Veterans Affairs; Subcommittees: Disability Assistance &  
Memorial Affairs.

### HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS:

- Senior  
Freshman Republican Whip
- Chairman  
of the Republican Policy Committee Veterans' Affairs Task Force
- Congressional  
Award Board of Directors

### CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS LEADERSHIP:

- Co-Chair  
of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues
- Co-Chair  
of the Congressional Military Veterans Caucus

### LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW (1):

- Conference Report for H.R. 1 - Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (H. Rept. 110-259). Two provisions authored by Rep. Bilirakis included in H.R. 1401, which passed the House on 3/27/2007, were adopted in H. Rept. 110-259. These two provisions, which address public transportation and rail security, signify Rep. Bilirakis's first freshman

congressional legislative accomplishments to become law; 8/3/2007 - Signed by The President and became Public Law No: 110-53.

#### LEGISLATION/LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE PASSED BY THE HOUSE (7):

##### - H.R. 1585 - National

Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2008 included key provisions specifically advocated by Rep. Bilirakis, including providing uniformed men and women with a 3.5 percent pay raise in 2008. In April 2007, Rep. Bilirakis introduced H.R. 2027, which would ensure that the minimum 2008 increase would be 3.5 percent. H.R. 1585 also included language providing CRSC compensation to medically-retired military personnel with at least 15 years of service and a disability rating of 60 percent or higher. In January 2007, Rep. Bilirakis introduced the Combat-Related Special Compensation Act, H.R. 89; 5/17/2007

- Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 397 - 27 (Roll no. 373).

##### - H.AMDT.79 to H.R.1538 -

(Sponsored by Rep. Bilirakis) An amendment numbered 10 printed in House Report 110-78; Amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to establish a Department of Defense-wide Ombudsman Office within the Office of the Secretary of Defense; 3/28/2007 - On agreeing to the Bilirakis amendment passed by voice vote; 3/28/2007 - H.R. 1538 was passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 426 - 0 (Roll no. 208).

##### - H. Res. 405 - (Sponsored

by Rep. Bilirakis) Expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for implementation of the July 8, 2006, United Nations-brokered agreement between President of the Republic of Cyprus Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus; 10/9/2007 -

Passed/agreed to in House. Status: On motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.

##### - Conference Report for H.R. 1 - Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007

(H. Rept. 110-259). Two provisions included in H.R. 1401, which passed the House on 3/27/2007, were adopted in H. Rept. 110-259. The first provision will require those who are coordinating the development and implementation of rail security plans to be American citizens. The second requires the physical testing of rail tank cars used to carry hazardous materials in order to make them more resistant to a terror attack; 7/27/2007 - Conference report agreed to in House: On agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 371 - 40 (Roll no. 757).

##### - H.R. 1401 - Rail and

Public Transportation Security Act, included two provisions Rep. Bilirakis successfully inserted during the consideration of the bill by the Homeland Security Committee. The first provision requires American citizenship for those coordinating the development and implementation of rail security plans. The second requires the physical testing of rail tank cars carrying hazardous materials to make them more resistant to a terrorist attack; 3/27/2007 - Passed/agreed to in House: On passage

Passed by recorded vote: 299 - 124, 1 Present (Roll no. 201).

##### - H. Res. 549 - (Sponsored

by Rep. Bilirakis) Recognizing the importance of America's Waterway Watch program, and for other purposes; 10/17/2007 - Passed/agreed to in House. Status: On motion to

suspend the rules and agree to the resolution Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 420 - 0 (Roll no. 976).

- The  
Conference Report for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs  
Appropriations and the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education  
Appropriations (H. Rept. 110-424), included language, at the request of  
Rep. Bilirakis, calling for feasibility study for placing a  
Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Brandon, Fla.; 11/6/2007 - Conference report agreed to in House: On  
agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 269 - 142  
(Roll no. 1050).

#### LEGISLATION INTRODUCED (24):

- H.R. 89 - Combat-Related  
Special Compensation Act

- H.R. 303 - Retired Pay  
Restoration Act

- H.R. 446 - Christopher and  
Dana Reeve Quality of Life for Persons with Paralysis Act.

- H.R. 704 - To amend title  
38, United States Code, to reduce from age 57 to age 55 the age after  
which the remarriage of the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran shall  
not result in termination of dependency and indemnity compensation  
otherwise payable to that surviving spouse.

- H.R. 722 - Increasing  
Access to Higher Education Act.

- H.R. 843 - Employer tax  
credit of 50% for compensation paid to employees on active duty.

- H.R. 844 - Employer tax  
credit of 10% for value of service not performed while employees are  
performing duties as member of Ready Reserve or National Guard.

- H.R. 913 - The Hurricane  
and Tornado Mitigation Investment Act.

- H.R. 1197 - The Prisoners  
of War Benefits Act.

- H.R. 1313 - To direct the  
Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of Constantino Brumidi  
for display in the Capitol  
Visitor Center.

- H.R. 1436 - To amend title  
10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed  
services who have a service-connected disability to receive both  
disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their  
disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military  
service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

- H.R. 1580 - To create a  
Department of Defense-wide Ombudsman Office.

- H.R. 1912 - To amend title

XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover hearing aids and auditory rehabilitation services under the Medicare Program.

- H.R. 2027 - To provide an

additional 0.5 percent increase in the rates of military basic pay for members of the uniformed services above the pay increase proposed by the Department of Defense so as to ensure at least a minimum pay increase of 3.5 percent for members and to further narrow the "pay gap" that exists between the military and private sector pay scales.

- H.R. 2319 - TRICARE

Mail-Order Pharmacy Pilot Program Act.

- H.R.

2490 - To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a pilot program for the mobile biometric identification in the maritime environment of aliens unlawfully attempting to enter the United States.

- H.R. 2704 - Gulf Coast All-Hazard Readiness Act of 2007.

- H.R. 3653 - Iran Human

Rights Act of 2007.

- H. Res. 405 - Expressing

the strong support of the House of Representatives for implementation of the July 8, 2006, United Nations-brokered agreement between President of the Republic of Cyprus Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus.

- H. Res. 549 - Recognizing

the importance of America's Waterway Watch program, and for other purposes (Passed the House; 10/17/2007).

- H. Res. 627 - Supporting

the removal of Turkish occupation troops from the Republic of Cyprus.

- H. Res. 638 - Expressing

the sense of the House of Representatives that the United Nations should forthwith take the procedural actions necessary to amend Article 23 of the Charter of the United Nations to establish India as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.

- H. Res. 705 - Expressing

the sense of the House of Representatives that the Chinese Communist Party should be condemned for engaging in coercive abortion practices, and for other purposes.

- H.AMDT.79 to H.R.1538 - An

amendment numbered 10 printed in House Report 110-78; Amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to establish a Department of Defense-wide Ombudsman Office within the Office of the Secretary of Defense.